Moore & Van Allen

July 3, 2019

VIA ELECTRONIC FILING

The Honorable Jocelyn G. Boyd Chief Clerk/Administrator The Public Service Commission of South Carolina 101 Executive Center Drive, Suite 100 Columbia, South Carolina 29210

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Comments in Response to Order No. 2019-457 (Docket Nos. 2019-176-E and Re:

2019-186-E)

Dear Ms. Boyd:

Nucor Steel-South Carolina, a Division of Nucor Corporation ("Nucor"), is a large industrial customer of Duke Energy Progress, LLC ("DEP"). Concurrently with the filing of this letter, Nucor is also filing motions to intervene in the proceedings referenced above. The purpose of this letter is provide comments on certain procedural issues related to these cases, as directed by the Commission in its June 26, 2019 directive (Order No. 2019-457).

We would propose that the Commission address the issues in these cases (i.e., standard offer, avoided cost methodologies, form contract power purchase agreements, commitment to sell forms, and any other terms and conditions necessary) in utility-specific dockets, rather than carving out the avoided cost methodology to be addressed in a generic proceeding. It is our understanding that South Carolina utilities have historically made utility-specific avoided cost filings, and nothing in Act 62 appears to require the Commission to alter this approach. Addressing proposed avoided cost methodologies, along with the other PURPA-related issues noted above, in separate, utility-specific proceedings would better allow the parties and the Commission to consider each utility's avoided cost proposal in light of the facts and circumstances unique to each utility. From Nucor's perspective, since we are a customer only of DEP, our concern is only with DEP's proposal to implement the PURPA provisions of Act 62, and how that proposal will affect our rates and service. If these issues are addressed in separate, utility-specific proceedings, a customer would only need to participate in its utility's case.

Also, given the short time between now and when the Commission must issue a decision on these PURPA issues, we are concerned that there may not be enough time for a preliminary technical conference/comment process to develop avoided cost methodological guidelines followed by cases to consider specific proposals by utilities. Addressing all of the PURPA

¹ The Commission is required to approve each utility's standard offer, avoided cost methodologies, form contract power purchase agreements, commitment to sell forms, and any other necessary terms and conditions within six months of the effective date of Act 62, which means the Commission must issue a decision by mid-November. S.C. Code Ann. § 58-41-20(A).

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implementation issues in utility-specific proceedings would appear to be more administratively efficient, particularly given the limited amount of time allowed under Act 62 for consideration of these issues and an ultimate Commission determination.

Nucor appreciates the opportunity to comment on this matter. Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Robert R. Smith II

Counsel for Nucor Steel – South Carolina

RRS

cc: All Parties of Record (via e-mail)

Appendix A

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